

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of upgrading a storage library, ~~wherein the storage library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels, the hardware component being set to operate at the low operating level;~~ the method comprising:

providing with a storage library a hardware component which has requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component either at low or high operating levels, wherein the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the high operating level is greater than the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the low operating level;

setting the hardware component to run at the low operating level until an upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware component to run at the high operating level is associated with the storage library;

associating an upgrade module having the permission instructions for the hardware component to run at the high operating level with the storage library, ~~the upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to operate at the high operating level;~~ and

enabling the hardware component of the storage library to operate to run at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with the storage library in order to upgrade thereby upgrading the storage library.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes attaching an upgrade module to the storage library.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

associating an enabling mechanism with the storage library, the enabling mechanism containing permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to run at the low operating level, wherein the enabling mechanism updates the permission instructions for the hardware component to run at the high operating level upon the upgrade module being associated with the storage library.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a storage array for storing media of the storage library.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a set of media players for performing operations on media of the storage library.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a robotic mechanism for manipulating media of the storage library.

7. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes associating an EEPROM module with the storage library.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 1 wherein:  
associating an upgrade module with the storage library includes transferring permission instructions from the Internet to the storage library.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A system for upgrading a storage library,  
~~wherein the storage library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels, the hardware component of the storage library being set to operate at the low operating level,~~ the system comprising:

a hardware component provided with a storage library, the hardware component having requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component either at low or high operating levels, wherein the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the high operating level is greater than the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the low operating level, wherein the hardware component is set to run at the low operating level until enabled to run at the high operating level;

an upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to ~~operate~~ run at the high operating level; and

an enabling mechanism for enabling the hardware component of the storage library to ~~operate~~ run at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with the storage library ~~in order to upgrade~~ thereby upgrading the storage library.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 9 wherein:

the enabling mechanism contains permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to run at the low operating level, wherein the ~~security~~ enabling mechanism updates the permission instructions for the hardware component to run at the high operating level upon the upgrade module being associated with the storage library.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The storage library of claim 9 wherein:

the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a storage array for storing media of the storage library.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The storage library of claim 9 wherein:

the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a set of media players for performing operations on media of the storage library.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The storage library of claim 9 wherein:

the hardware component ~~[[is]]~~ includes a robotic mechanism for manipulating media of the storage library.

14. (ORIGINAL) The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
the upgrade module is an EEPROM module.

15. (ORIGINAL) The storage library of claim 9 wherein:  
the permission instructions are transferrable to the upgrade module via the  
Internet.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of upgrading ~~from a first~~  
storage library ~~having a hardware component operable to run at a low operating level to a~~  
~~second storage library having the hardware component operable to run at a high operating~~  
~~level, wherein a base module is needed to be associated with a storage library in order to~~  
function, the method comprising:

associating a base module ~~from the first storage library with the second~~ a storage  
library provided with a first storage frame having a first storage capacity, the base module  
having permission instructions for the ~~hardware component~~ storage library to operate at the  
first storage capacity ~~low operating level~~;

accepting the permission instructions of the base module by the storage library  
such that the storage library operates at the first storage capacity upon the base module being  
associated with the storage library;

replacing the first storage frame with a second storage frame having a second  
storage capacity greater than the first storage capacity;

prompting for an upgrade module, having permission instructions for the storage  
library to operate at the second storage capacity instead of the first storage capacity, to be  
associated with the ~~second~~ storage library in response to recognizing the permission  
instructions of the base module for the ~~hardware component~~ storage library to operate at the  
first storage capacity after the first storage frame has been replaced with the second storage  
frame ~~low operating level, the upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware~~  
~~component to operate at the high operating level~~;

~~disassociating the base module from the second storage library~~;

associating the upgrade module with the ~~second~~ storage library; and

accepting the permission instructions of the upgrade module by the storage library for such that the hardware component to operate storage library operates at the second storage capacity upon the upgrade module being associated with the storage library after the first storage frame has been replaced with the second storage frame ~~high operating level~~.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 16 further comprising:

disabling the upgrade module after the permission instructions of the upgrade module have been accepted by the storage library;

~~prompting for the base module to be associated with the second storage library;~~

~~disassociating the upgrade module from the second storage library;~~

~~associating the base module with the second storage library;~~

writing the permission instructions of the upgrade module from the storage library into the base module; ~~and~~

~~enabling the hardware component to operate at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with the second storage library.~~

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 16 wherein:  
~~the hardware component~~ each storage frame is a storage array for storing media.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of upgrading a storage library, ~~wherein the storage library has a hardware component operable to run at low and high operating levels, the hardware component being set to operate at the low operating level, the method comprising:~~

providing with a storage library a hardware component which has requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component either at low or high operating levels, wherein the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the high operating level is greater than the amount of the requisite hardware elements used for running the hardware component at the low operating level;

associating a base module with the storage library, the base module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to operate at the low operating level;~~the base module further having permission instructions for enabling the storage library to function;~~

~~disassociating the base module with the storage library;~~

associating an upgrade module with the storage library, the upgrade module having permission instructions for the hardware component of the storage library to operate at the high operating level; and

enabling the hardware component of the storage library to operate at the high operating level in response to the upgrade module being associated with the storage library ~~in order to upgrade~~ thereby upgrading the storage library.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 19 further comprising:

disabling the upgrade module after the hardware component of the storage library has been enabled to operate at the high operating level; and

~~disassociating the upgrade module from the second storage library;~~

~~associating the base module with the second storage library; and~~

writing the permission instructions of the upgrade module from the storage library into the base module.